785. [*Transferred to 9th March, 1987.*]

Construction of hotels by ITDC

786. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) has a proposal to construct some hotels in the country during the year 1987-88;

(b) if so, the number of three/four/five star hotels proposed to be constructed in different States during the above period;

(c) whether any such hotels are proposed to be set up by the ITDC in Bihar if so, the site selected therefor; and

(d) what is the estimated cost of each hotel and what are the other details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (MUFTI MOHD. SAYEED): (a) ITDC has no proposal to construct any new hotel in the country during the year 1987-88.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

ITDC offices in Paris

787. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ITDC offices in Paris are being manned by a single person with the rest of the personnel having been summarily sacked;

(b) what are the reasons for terminnaing the services of other personnel and what was the total staff strength of ITDC offices in Paris;

(c) whether this has adversely affected the tourist traffic to India; and

(d) what measures have been taken to normalise the situation and with what result?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (MUFTI MOHD. SAYEED): (a) to (d) ITDC has no office in Paris. However, there is a Government of India Tourist Office at Paris headed by a Director. In pursuance of a decision services of four local-based employees working in the tourist office, Paris were terminated. These local-based employees in the Tourist Office had demanded wage parity with Air India involving huge arrears and had gone for litigation in a local Labour Court. Efforts are being made to get secretarial assistance through local Indian Mission or Air India in collaboration with whom the tourist offices abroad are functioning under the "Operation scheme". Tourist traffic to India has not been affected.

Tourist centres in Bihar

788. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to open tourism centres in various districts of Bihar for the convenience of the domestic and foreign tourists coming in large number to vistit famous historical monuments in the State;

(b) whether Government have asked for a report in this connection from the State Government;

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(d) by when such tourist centres are proposed to be opened indicating the estimated costs in each case?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (MUFTI MOHD. SAYEED): (a) to (d) There are already a large number of tourist centres and Information Countres functioning at various places of tourist interest in Bihar. The existing facilities are being supplemented

from time to time on the basis of infrastructure development schemes submitted by the State Government for these centres. The question of creating new infrastructure facilities at new centres will be taken as and when proposals are received from State Government. The State Government have submitted the following proposals to be taken up in 1987-88 which are under consideration:

1. Construction of tourist bungalow at Gopalganj (estimated cost Rs. 29.70 lakhs).

2. Construction of Cultural Centre at Rajgir, Bodhgaya and Vaishali (Rs. 90 lakhs).

3. Construction of Cafeteria at Nalanda, Detaild proposal is awaited.

4. Boat for River Ganga at Patna (Rs. 4.00 lakhs).

5. Floodlighting of monuments at Rajgir (Rs. 8.91 lakhs).

These proposals will be considered for 1987-88 in the light of *inter-se* priorities and availability of funds.

Exports, imports and trade deficit

789. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total value of exports, imports and trade deficit during the years 1984-85 and 1985-86;

(b) the value of exports, imports and trade deficit during the first six months of 1985-86 and first six months of 1986-87; and

(c) the rise or fall in exports (in per centage) during the first six months of 1986-87 compared to the corresponding period of the previous year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) to (c) The details of exports, imports and trade deficit for the periods 1984-85, 1985-86 and April-Sept., 1986 with date for the corresponding period of April-September, 1985 are as under:—

(Value : Rs. Crores)

Year	Exports	% Variation	Imports	% Variation	Balance of trade
1984-85	11743.68	..	17134.20	..	— 5390.52
1985-86 (P)	11011.96	—6.2	19759.43	+15.3	— 8747.47
April-Sept., 1985-86 (U) . .	5180.97	..	9141.63	..	3960.66
April-Sept., 1986-87 (P) . .	5857.44	+13.1	9239.01	+1.1	— 3381.57

P : Provisional.

U : Updated.

SOURCE : DGCI&S, Calcutta.